

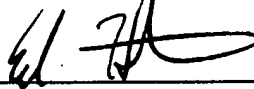
a¹ 60/243,209 filed on October 25, 2000, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety, and (2) U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/243,697 filed on October 25, 2000.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact Mr. Steven D. Lawrenz, attorney for the Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

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Authorization for Extensions of Time

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**Appendix – Specification
Marked to Show Changes**

On Page 1, line 1 please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of (1) U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/243,209 filed on October 25, 2000, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety-, and (2) U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/243,697 filed on October 25, 2000.